

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-35. (Cancelled)

Claim 36. (Previously Presented) A surgical procedure to be conducted on a patient, said surgical procedure comprising the steps of removing tissue from a first location in the patient's body, separating one or more components from at least a portion of the removed tissue, thereafter packing the removed tissue into a desired shape, and thereafter implanting the packed tissue at a second location in the patient's body, wherein the removed tissue includes blood and other body tissue.

Claim 37. (Previously Presented) A surgical procedure as set forth in claim 36 wherein said step of separating one or more components from the removed tissue includes centrifuging at least a portion of the removed tissue.

Claim 38. (Previously Presented) A surgical procedure as set forth in claim 36 further including the step of adding a substance to the removed tissue after separating one or more components from the removed tissue and prior to implanting the packed tissue at a second location in the patient's body.

Claim 39. (Previously Presented) A surgical procedure as set forth in claim 36 wherein said step of removing tissue from a first location in a patient's body includes cutting body tissue at the first location and moving the body tissue away from the first location under the influence of suction.

Claim 40. (Previously Presented) A surgical procedure to be conducted on a patient, said surgical procedure comprising the steps of removing tissue from a first location in the patient's body, separating one or more components from at least a portion of the tissue removed

from the patient's body, and implanting the tissue at a second location in the patient's body after separating one or more components from at least a portion of the tissue, wherein said step of removing tissue from a first location in a patient's body includes cutting body tissue at the first location and moving the body tissue away from the first location under the influence of suction and wherein said step of cutting body tissue includes rotating a cutting tool under the influence of force transmitted through an elongated member which is at least partially enclosed by a tubular member, said step of moving the body tissue away from the first location under the influence of suction includes moving body tissue cut by the rotating cutting tool along the tubular member under the influence of suction, wherein the elongated member is flexible such that the cutting tool can be guided.

Claim 41. (Previously Presented) A surgical procedure to be conducted on a patient, said surgical procedure comprising the steps of removing tissue from a first location in the patient's body, separating one or more components from at least a portion of the tissue removed from the patient's body, and implanting the tissue at a second location in the patient's body after separating one or more components from at least a portion of the tissue, wherein said step of implanting the tissue at the second location includes inserting a cannula into the patient's body, moving a surgical instrument through the cannula, removing tissue from the second location, said step of removing tissue from the second location includes using the surgical instrument inserted through the cannula, and, thereafter, performing said step of inserting tissue removed from the first location in the patient's body at the second location in the patient's body.

Claim 42. (Previously Presented) A surgical procedure as set forth in claim 36 wherein said step of separating one or more components from the removed tissue includes separating one or more components from blood removed from the patient's body, said step of implanting the packed tissue at a second location in the patient's body includes implanting one or more components of the blood removed from the patient's body.

Claim 43. (Previously Presented) A surgical procedure as set forth in claim 36 wherein said step of separating one or more components from the removed tissue includes separating at least a first component from blood removed from the patient's body, said step of implanting the packed tissue at a second location in the patient's body includes implanting the blood removed from the patient's body after removing at least the first component from the blood and implanting at least a portion of the other body tissue removed from the patient's body.

Claim 44. (Previously Presented) A surgical procedure as set forth in claim 36 wherein said step of separating one or more components from the removed tissue includes removing at least a first component from the blood removed from the patient's body, and said step of implanting the packed tissue at the second location includes implanting at least the blood from which at least the first component has been removed.

Claim 45. (Cancelled)

Claim 46. (Previously Presented) A surgical procedure as set forth in claim 36 wherein said step of separating one or more components from the removed tissue includes filtering the blood and other body tissue removed from the first location, said step of implanting the packed tissue at a second location is performed after filtering the blood and other body tissue removed from the first location.

Claim 47. (Previously Presented) A surgical procedure as set forth in claim 36 wherein said step of separating one or more components from the removed tissue includes moving the blood and other body tissue removed from the first location into a trap, said step of implanting the packed tissue at a second location is performed after moving the blood and other body tissue removed from the first location into the trap.

Claim 48. (Cancelled)

Claim 49. (Previously Presented) A surgical procedure as set forth in claim 36 wherein said step of removing tissue from a first location in a patient's body includes inserting a first tubular member into a patient's body and moving the removed tissue from the first location in the patient's body through the first tubular member to a location outside of the patient's body, said step of implanting the packed tissue at a second location in the patient's body includes inserting a second tubular member into the patient's body and moving the packed tissue through the second tubular member.

Claims 50-56. (Cancelled)

Claim 57. (Previously Presented) A surgical procedure to be conducted on a patient, said surgical procedure comprising the steps of inserting a first tubular member into the patient's body, moving body tissue from a first location in the patient's body through the first tubular member to a location outside of the patient's body, inserting a second tubular member into the patient's body, and moving at least a portion of the body tissue through the second tubular member to a second location in the patient's body, wherein a substance is added to the body tissue after moving the body tissue from the first location through the first tubular member to a location outside of the patient's body and prior to moving the body tissue through the second tubular member; wherein the added substance is a bone growth promoter; and wherein said step of moving body tissue from a first location in the patient's body through the first tubular member includes moving blood from the first location in the patient's body through the first tubular member, said surgical procedure further includes separating one or more components from the blood, said step of moving body tissue through the second tubular member to the second location in the patient's body includes moving the blood from which one or more components have been removed through the second tubular member to the second location in the patient's body.

Claim 58. (Currently Amended) A surgical procedure as set forth in claim [[53]] 57 wherein said step of moving tissue from the first location in the patient's body through a first

tubular member includes moving blood and pieces of other tissue through the first tubular member, said surgical procedure further includes filtering the blood and other tissue moved through the first tubular member, said step of moving body tissue through the second tubular member is performed after filtering the blood and other tissue.

Claim 59. (Currently Amended) A surgical procedure as set forth in claim [[53]] 57 wherein said step of moving tissue from the first location in the patient's body through a first tubular member includes moving blood and pieces of other tissue through the first tubular member, said surgical procedure further includes moving the blood and other tissue into a trap, said step of moving body tissue through the second tubular member is performed after moving the blood and other tissue into a trap.

Claim 60. (Previously Presented) A surgical procedure to be conducted on a patient, said surgical procedure comprising the steps of inserting a first tubular member into the patient's body, moving body tissue from a first location in the patient's body through the first tubular member to a location outside of the patient's body, packing tissue moved through the first tubular member to form a body of packed tissue, inserting a second tubular member into the patient's body, and moving the body of packed tissue through the second tubular member to a second location in the patient's body.

Claims 61-68. (Cancelled)

Claim 69. (Previously Presented) A surgical procedure to be conducted on a patient, said surgical procedure comprising the steps of cutting body tissue at a first location in a patient's body, moving blood and other body tissue along a first tubular member in a direction away from the first location in the patient's body to a location outside of the patient's body, separating one or more components from at least one of the blood and other body tissue at a location outside of the patient's body, thereafter, packing the blood and other body tissue to form

a packed tissue mass, moving the packed tissue mass along a second tubular member in a direction toward a second location in the patient's body, and implanting the packed tissue mass at the second location in the patient's body.

Claim 70. (Previously Presented) A surgical procedure as set forth in claim 69 wherein said step of separating one or more components from at least one of the blood and other body tissue includes centrifuging the blood.

Claim 71. (Previously Presented) A surgical procedure to be conducted on a patient, said surgical procedure comprising the steps of cutting body tissue at a first location in a patient's body, moving blood and other body tissue along a first tubular member in a direction away from the first location in the patient's body to a location outside of the patient's body, separating one or more components from at least one of the blood and other body tissue at a location outside of the patient's body, thereafter, moving the blood and other body tissue along a second tubular member in a direction toward a second location in the patient's body, and implanting the blood and other body tissue at the second location in the patient's body wherein said step of separating one or more components from at least one of the blood and other body tissue includes centrifuging the other body tissue.

Claim 72. (Cancelled)

Claim 73. (Previously Presented) A surgical procedure as set forth in claim 69 further including the step of adding a substance to the packed tissue mass prior to moving the packed tissue mass along the second tubular member.

Claim 74. (Previously Presented) A surgical procedure as set forth in claim 69 wherein said step of moving the packed tissue mass along a first tubular member includes moving the packed tissue mass under the influence of suction.

Claim 75. (Previously Presented) A surgical procedure as set forth in claim 69 wherein said step of cutting body tissue at the first location in a patient's body includes rotating a cutting tool under the influence of force transmitting through the first tubular member.

Claim 76. (Previously Presented) A surgical procedure as set forth in claim 69 further including the steps of moving a surgical instrument through the second tubular member and removing the tissue from the second location before moving the packed tissue mass along the second tubular member.

Claim 77. (Previously Presented) The surgical procedure according to claim 57, which further comprises:

inserting a cutting tool via said first tubular member to the body tissue; and
reciprocating said cutting tool to cut the body tissue.

Claim 78. (Previously Presented) The surgical procedure according to claim 71, which further comprises:

inserting a cutting tool via said first tubular member to the body tissue; and
reciprocating said cutting tool to cut the body tissue.

Claim 79. (Previously Presented) The surgical procedure according to claim 57, which further comprises:

inserting a cutting tool via said first tubular member to the body tissue; and
rotating said cutting tool to cut the body tissue.

Claim 80. (Previously Presented) The surgical procedure according to claim 71, which further comprises:

inserting a cutting tool via said first tubular member to the body tissue; and
rotating said cutting tool to cut the body tissue.

Claim 81. (Previously Presented) The surgical procedure according to claim 57, wherein said first tubular member includes a material selected from the group consisting of a metal, a polymer, and a composite.

Claim 82. (Previously Presented) The surgical procedure according to claim 71, wherein said first tubular member includes a material selected from the group consisting of a metal, a polymer, and a composite.

Claim 83. (Previously Presented) The surgical procedure according to claim 57, which further comprises:

inserting a cutting tool through said first tubular member to the body tissue;
cutting the body tissue with said cutting tool; and
driving said cutting tool manually.

Claim 84. (Previously Presented) The surgical procedure according to claim 57, which further comprises:

inserting a cutting tool through said first tubular member to the body tissue;
cutting the body tissue with said cutting tool; and
driving said cutting tool with a motor.

Claim 85. (Currently Amended) The surgical procedure according to claim 71, which further comprises:

inserting a cutting tool through said first tubular member to the body tissue;
[[and]]
performing the cutting of the body tissue with said cutting tool; and
driving said cutting tool manually.

Claim 86. (Currently Amended) The surgical procedure according to claim 71, which further comprises:

inserting a cutting tool through said first tubular member to the body tissue;

[[and]]

performing the cutting of the body tissue with said cutting tool; and

driving said cutting tool with a motor.

Claim 87. (Previously Presented) The surgical procedure according to claim 57, which further comprises guiding said first tubular member to the body tissue.

Claim 88. (Previously Presented) The surgical procedure according to claim 87, which further comprises inserting a means for guiding said first tubular member to the body tissue before inserting said tubular member.

Claim 89. (Previously Presented) The surgical procedure according to claim 88, wherein said means for guiding said first tubular member to the body tissue is selected from the group consisting of a guide rod and a guide wire.

Claim 90. (Previously Presented) The surgical procedure according to claim 88, wherein said means for guiding said first tubular member is at least partially within said tubular member.

Claim 91. (Previously Presented) The surgical procedure according to claim 88, wherein said means for guiding said first tubular member is outside of said first tubular member.

Claim 92. (Previously Presented) The surgical procedure according to claim 71, which further comprises guiding said first tubular member to the body tissue.

Claim 93. (Previously Presented) The surgical procedure according to claim 92, which further comprises inserting a means for guiding said first tubular member to the body tissue before inserting said tubular member.

Claim 94. (Previously Presented) The surgical procedure according to claim 93, wherein said means for guiding said first tubular member to the body tissue is selected from the group consisting of a guide rod and a guide wire.

Claim 95. (Previously Presented) The surgical procedure according to claim 93, wherein said means for guiding said first tubular member is at least partially within said tubular member.

Claim 96. (Previously Presented) The surgical procedure according to claim 93, wherein said means for guiding said first tubular member is outside of said first tubular member.